GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1558
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2001
VARIETIES OF COTTON
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been urged to restrict the number of varieties of cotton according to the demands of the textile industry;

(b) whether any representation has been received by the Government for amendments to the crop insurance scheme so that all farmers who lost their crop due to natural calamities may be compensated; and

(c) if so, the decision of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): Yes, Sir. Suggestion has been received from Ministry of Textiles for denotification of old and obsolete varieties of cotton. As on date 205 varieties of cotton have been released/notified and 17 old and obsolete varieties have been denotified.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. Representation for making certain changes in the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) were received from various States i.e. West Bengal, Karnataka,Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, etc. Some of the amendments suggested are given as under:

- Coverage of Perennial crops.
- Sharing of financial liabilities between Central and State Governments.
- Reducing the unit of insurance keeping in view the increased number of Crop Cutting Experiments.
- Working out of threshold yield based on past three years normal yield data.
- Cap on Sum Insured.
- Premium subsidy for small and marginal farmers to be continued.
- Flexibility in seasonality discipline.

As per the provisions in the scheme, and also keeping in view the suggestions made by the States, a process of review of the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme has been initiated.